

to 20 points. “Practically free from defects” means that the number of defects that may be present does not exceed the number specified for the applicable type of defect in Table I.

(c) *(B) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that are reasonably free from defects may be given a score of 16 or 17 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade B, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Reasonably free from defects” means that the number of defects that may be present does not exceed the number specified for the applicable type of defect in Table I.

(d) *(C) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that are fairly free from defects may be given a score of 14 or 15 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade C, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Fairly free from defects” means that the number of defects that may be present does not exceed the number specified for the applicable type of defect in Table I.

(e) *(SStd.) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fail to meet the requirements for Grade C may be given a score of 0 to 13 points and shall not be graded above Substandard, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule).

**§ 52.809 Character.**

(a) *General.* The factor of character refers to the physical characteristics of the flesh of the cherries.

(b) *(A) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that have a good character may be given a score of 27 to 30 points. “Good character” means that the cherries are thick-fleshed and have a firm, tender texture.

(c) *(B) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that have a reasonably good character may be given a score of 24 to 26 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade B, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Reasonably good character” means that the cherries may be reasonably thick-fleshed and slightly soft.

(d) *(C) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that have a fairly good character may be given a score of 21 to 23 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade C, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Fairly good character” means that the cherries may be thin-fleshed and may be soft but not mushy, or slightly tough but not leathery.

(e) *(SStd.) Classification.* Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fail to meet the requirements for Grade C may be given a score of 0 to 20 points and shall not be graded above Substandard, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule).

ALLOWANCES FOR QUALITY FACTORS

**§ 52.810 Allowances for quality factors.**

TABLE I—ALLOWANCES FOR QUALITY FACTORS

Factor	Sample unit size	Maximum number permissible for the respective grade		
		A	B	C
Color: Vary markedly or undercolored.	100 cherries .....	12 .....	18 .....	25.
Pits .....	20 ozs .....	Not more than 2 in any sample unit. Sample average 1 per 40 ozs.	Not more than 3 in any sample unit. Sample average 1 per 30 ozs.	4 or more in any sample unit. Sample average 1 per 20 ozs.
Defects: Total-mutilated, minor blemished, and blemished of which.	100 cherries .....	10 .....	15 .....	20.

TABLE I—ALLOWANCES FOR QUALITY FACTORS—Continued

Factor	Sample unit size	Maximum number permissible for the respective grade		
		A	B	C
Blemished—limited to Harmless extraneous material.	20 ozs	3 Average 1 piece per 60 oz. net contents.	7 Average 1 piece per 40 oz. net contents.	15. Average 1 piece per 20 oz. net contents.

## LOT COMPLIANCE

**§ 52.811 Ascertaining the grade of a lot.**

The grade of a lot of frozen red tart pitted cherries covered by these standards is determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection and Certification of Processed Fruits and Vegetables, Processed Products Thereof, and Certain Other Processed Food Products (§§ 52.1 through 52.83).

## SCORE SHEET

**§ 52.812 Score sheet for frozen red tart pitted cherries.**

Size and kind of container.  
Container mark or identification.  
Label (style of pack, ratio of fruit to sugar, etc., if shown).  
Net weight (ounces).  
Size<sup>1</sup>.

Factor		
Score points.		
Color .....	30	(A) 27–30 (B) <sup>2</sup> 24–26 (C) <sup>2</sup> 21–23 (SStd.) <sup>2</sup> 0–20
Freedom from pits ....	20	(A) 18–20 (B) <sup>2</sup> 16–17 (C) <sup>2</sup> 14–15 (SStd.) <sup>2</sup> 0–13
Freedom from defects.	20	(A) 18–20 (B) <sup>2</sup> 16–17 (C) <sup>2</sup> 14–15 (SStd.) <sup>2</sup> 0–13
Character .....	30	(A) 27–30 (B) <sup>2</sup> 24–26 (C) <sup>2</sup> 21–23 (SStd.) <sup>2</sup> 0–20
Total score .....	100	
Normal flavor.		
Grade.		

<sup>1</sup> See size limitation for U.S. Grade A and U.S. Grade B.<sup>2</sup> Indicates limiting rule.**Subpart—United States Standards for Grades of Dates**

SOURCE: 20 FR 5755, Aug. 10, 1955, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981.

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION, STYLES, AND GRADES

**§ 52.1001 Product description.**

Dates are the properly cured fresh fruit of the date tree (*Phoenix dactylifera*) which may or may not be softened by hydration. For the purposes of the standards in this subpart, dates, when referred to as “dry dates for processing,” means that the dates are dry and have not been softened by hydration.

**§ 52.1002 Styles of dates.**

(a) *Whole* or *whole dates* means whole unpitted dates from which the pits have not been removed and which may be slit longitudinally.

(b) *Pitted* or *pitted dates* means whole dates from which the pits have been removed.

(c) *Pieces* or *date pieces* means dates that have been cut or sliced into small pieces and that can be handled as individual units.

(d) *Macerated* or *macerated dates* means dates that have been ground, chopped, mashed, or broken or that have been cut or sliced into small pieces and that cannot be handled as individual units.

**§ 52.1003 Grades of dates.**

(a) *U.S. Grade A* or *U.S. Fancy* is the quality of whole or pitted dates that are of one variety, that possess a good color, that are practically uniform in size, that are practically free from defects, that possess a good character, and that score not less than 90 points